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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 001560-373

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
)	
Kazuhiro OHSUYE et al)	Group Art Unit: 1652
)	
Application No.: 09/402,093)	Examiner: E. Slobodyansky
)	
Filed: September 29, 1999)	
)	
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING)	
PEPTIDES USING A HELPER)	
PEPTIDE)	

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 10, 2001, and together with a
Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time, please amend the above-referenced
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claim 24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace claims 1, 4 and 23 as follows.

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1. (Amended) A process for producing a peptide having a desired biological activity, comprising the steps of:
- (1) culturing cells transformed with an expression vector having the nucleotide sequence encoding a peptide of interest that has a helper peptide added thereto, or a fusion protein that has a protective peptide further added to the peptide of interest that